



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Small Business Saturday**

**WHEREAS**, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the glue that holds communities together; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28 million small businesses in the United States as of last year and small business created 65 percent of net new jobs over the past two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of our community and communities across the country are being asked to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim November 26, 2011 as Small Business Saturday in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 23<sup>RD</sup> day of November, 2011

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State